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ALIEN SMUGGLER SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS JAIL FOR HARBORING INFANT

PHOENIX – Tolentino Castillo-Flores, 25, of Mexico, was sentenced on November 2, 2009, by U.S. District Judge Roslyn O. Silver to 30 months jail. Castillo-Flores pleaded guilty on August 19, 2009, to Harboring Illegal Aliens for Profit.

In late April and early May 2009, Castillo-Flores, along with others harbored a 4-month old infant who had recently been smuggled into the U.S. and demanded payment from the infant's father for the baby's release. Castillo-Flores organized the operation, directed the co-defendants to harbor the infant and negotiated an exchange of money for the baby's release at which time he was arrested by Special Agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The infant was unharmed and returned to the family.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Border Patrol. The prosecution was handled by Cassie Woo and Walter Perkel, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-09-6007-PHX-ROS RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-347(Castillo-Flores)

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